

Department of Energy

§ 852.14

(c) Additional relevant information under the control of DOE or its contractors;

(d) Consultation with designated specialists in fields relevant to its deliberations;

(e) Specific articles or reports, or assistance searching the medical or scientific literature; or

(f) Other needed information or materials.

§ 852.11 How is a Physician Panel to carry out its deliberations and arrive at a determination?

(a) Each panel member reviews all materials relating to the application.

(b) All panel members meet in conference, in person, or by teleconference in order to discuss the application and arrive at a determination agreed to by a majority of the members of the Physician Panel.

§ 852.12 How must a Physician Panel issue its determination?

A Physician Panel must submit its determination under § 852.8 and the findings that provide the basis for its determination to the Program Office. The determination and the findings must be in writing and signed by all panel members. The findings must include:

(a) Each illness or cause of death that is the subject of the application.

(b) For each illness or cause of death listed under paragraph (a) of this section:

(1) Diagnosis;

(2) Approximate date of onset;

(3) Date of death, if applicable;

(4) Whether the illness or death arose out of and in the course of employment by a DOE contractor and exposure to a toxic substance at a DOE facility;

(5) The basis for the determination under paragraph (b)(4) of this section;

(6) A determination concerning any other medical issue identified in the relevant State Agreement; and

(7) The basis for the determination under paragraph (b)(6) of this section.

(c) The Physician Panel must provide the Program Office with:

(1) Any evidence to the contrary of the panel's determination, and why the panel finds this evidence is not persuasive.

(2) A listing of information and materials reviewed by the panel in making its determination, including:

(i) Information and materials provided by the Program Office; and,

(ii) Information and materials obtained by the panel, including consultations with specialists, scientific articles, and the record of any interview with an applicant.

(3) Any other information the panel concludes that the Program Office should have in order to understand the panel's deliberations and determination.

§ 852.13 When must a Physician Panel issue its determination?

(a) A Physician Panel must submit its determination and findings to the Program Office within 30 working days of the time that panel members have received the complete application for review from the Program Office.

(b) The Program Office may extend the deadline for a panel determination under the following circumstances:

(1) The Physician Panel indicates to the Program Office that it needs additional information or a consultation in order to carry out its deliberations, as provided for in § 852.10. In this case, the panel's determination is due 15 working days after receipt of the additional information (or notice from the Program Office that the requested information is unavailable), or 15 working days after receiving the consultant's recommendations, whichever is applicable; or

(2) The Physician Panel has requested and the Program Office has granted an extension.

(c) If an extension is granted pursuant to section 852.13(b)(2), the Program Office will specify the new deadline.

§ 852.14 What precautions must each Physician Panel member and each specialist take in order to keep an applicant's personal and medical information confidential?

In order to maintain the confidentiality of an applicant's personal and medical information, each Physician Panel member and each specialist consulted at the request of a Physician Panel must take the following precautions: